

Senate, April 1, 1998. The Committee on Human Services reported through SEN. HANDLEY, 4th DIST., Chairman of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING SOUP KITCHENS AND PERSONS WHO SERVE MEALS TO SENIOR CITIZENS AT CONGREGATE MEAL SITES OR FOR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 (NEW) (a) Any person who serves meals to
- 2 individuals at registered congregate meal sites
- 3 funded under Title III of the Older Americans Act
- 4 of 1965, as amended, which were prepared by a food
- 5 service operator licensed in accordance with the
- 6 provisions of section 19a-36a of the general
- 7 statutes, shall be exempt from the examination
- 8 requirement for food service operators.
- 9 (b) Any volunteer who serves meals for a
- 10 nonprofit organization shall be exempt from the
- 11 examination requirement for food service
- 12 operators.
- 13 (c) The Commissioner of Public Health, in
- 14 conjunction with the Commissioner of Social
- 15 Services, shall adopt regulations in accordance
- 16 with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general
- 17 statutes to establish training procedures for
- 18 persons exempt from the examination requirement
- 19 for food service operators under the provisions of
- 20 subsections (a) and (b) of this section.
- 21 (d) An owner or operator of a soup kitchen
- 22 shall be exempt from the requirement of employing

23 a qualified food operator for such kitchen and any
24 reporting requirements relative to such operator.

25 HS COMMITTEE VOTE: YEA 16 NAY 0 JFS

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"THE FOLLOWING FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT AND BILL ANALYSIS ARE PREPARED FOR THE BENEFIT OF MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SOLELY FOR PURPOSES OF INFORMATION, SUMMARIZATION AND EXPLANATION AND DO NOT REPRESENT THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OR EITHER HOUSE THEREOF FOR ANY PURPOSE."

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT - BILL NUMBER SSB 466

STATE IMPACT	Minimal Cost, Within Anticipated Budgetary Resources, see explanation below
MUNICIPAL IMPACT	Minimal Workload Decrease, see explanation below
STATE AGENCY(S)	Departments of Public Health, Social Services

EXPLANATION OF ESTIMATES:

STATE IMPACT: It is anticipated that the Department of Public Health will be able to adopt the required regulations within its anticipated budgetary resources. As examinations for food service operators are conducted by private testing organizations, no state revenue impact will result from exempting certain individuals as specified in the bill.

The Department of Social Services will be able to cooperate in the development of the regulations within its anticipated budgetary resources.

MUNICIPAL IMPACT: To the extent that local health authorities will no longer monitor certain individual's compliance with state regulations regarding qualified food operators, a minimal workload decrease will ensue.

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OLR BILL ANALYSIS

SSB 466

AN ACT CONCERNING SOUP KITCHENS AND PERSONS WHO SERVE MEALS TO SENIOR CITIZENS AT CONGREGATE MEAL SITES OR FOR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

SUMMARY: This bill exempts from the Department of Public Health (DPH) qualified food operator requirements: (1) anyone serving food prepared by a "licensed" qualified food operator to people at a federally funded congregate meal site (see COMMENT) and (2) volunteers serving food at nonprofit organizations. It requires the DPH commissioner, along with the Department of Social Services commissioner, to adopt regulations to establish training procedures for exempt individuals.

The bill exempts soup kitchen owners and operators from any DPH regulation requiring them to (1) employ a qualified food operator and (2) provide reports concerning food operators.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 1998

BACKGROUND**Congregate Meals Program**

The congregate meal program provides at least one hot meal a day, five days a week to people age 60 or older, their spouses, and handicapped or disabled individuals residing in housing facilities occupied primarily by older people at which congregate nutrition services are provided, regardless of income level. Meals are served at various meal sites, usually in senior centers, churches, and elderly housing projects.

COMMENT**Qualified Food Operators**

DPH does not "license" qualified food operators. By law an individual who owns, operates, or manages a food establishment that serves hot food that did not come out of a package to the public must either be a "qualified food operator" or have a supervisor on site

who is a qualified food operator. To become qualified an individual must pass an exam that tests knowledge of food handling safety.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute
Yea 16 Nay 0